

STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT TO REISSUE A WISCONSIN POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (WPDES) PERMIT No.WI-0026042-09-0

Permittee: Domtar Paper Co LLC, 210 N Grand Ave, Rothschild, WI, 54474-1197

Facility Where Discharge Occurs: Domtar Paper Co LLC, 210 N Grand Ave

Receiving Water And Location: The Wisconsin River at river mile 258.2 in the Bull Junior Creek Watershed of the Upper Wisconsin River Basin in Marathon County and to the groundwater in Marathon County.

Brief Facility Description and Summary of Proposed Changes: Domtar Paper Co, LLC's Rothschild mill (DRM) produces 180 TPD (tons per day) of calcium-based sulfite pulp from hardwood and 434 TPD of fine paper at its Rothschild mill. Since May 1998, the bleaching process performed at the pulp mill has been total chlorine free (TCF). In the fall of 2003, DRM shut down the smaller of its two paper machines. In late 2013, DRM's treatment facility began accepting all process wastewaters from Wisconsin Electric Power Company (WEPC)'s 50 MW, biomass-fueled cogeneration facility at the Rothschild Mill site.

Wastewater Sources: Pulp and paper production at DRM generates process wastewaters and cooling waters. DRM also sends its spent pulping liquor (red liquor) to the adjoining Borregaard facility, a chemical recovery plant that manufactures lignosulfate products. In return, DRM collects and treats Borregaard's red liquor evaporator condensate and other process wastewaters. Borregaard is authorized to discharge noncontact cooling water and process wastewaters under their own permit (WI-0003450). DRM also treats process wastewaters from the Wisconsin Electric Power Company's cogeneration biomass facility, as described below. DRM stopped accepting leachate from the Marathon County, Midstate, Spickler, and Cleveland landfills since June 2020.

All process wastewaters from the cogeneration biomass facility are discharged to the mill's wastewater treatment system and include boiler blowdown, cooling tower blowdown, and boiler water demineralization wastes, totaling 0.5 MGD on average. This flow is offset by reductions in wastewater generated by the mill. Additionally, the mill has retired its own boilers and now utilizes steam produced by the cogeneration facility. A full best technology available determination has also been completed for DRM's intake structure.

Main proposed changes:

- Addition of an extra outfall for hydrostatic test water.
- Lower AOX limitation
- New mercury limitation for Outfall 010
- New phosphorus limitations for Outfall 014
- Lower BOD5 and TSS limitations for Outfall 014

Permit Drafter's Name, Address, Phone and Email: Nate Willis, DNR, 101 S. Webster St. PO Box 7921, Madison, WI, 53707-7921, (608) 266-3221, Nathaniel.Willis@wisconsin.gov

Basin Engineer's Name, Address, Phone and Email: Nicholas Lindstrom, 1300 W Clairemont Avenue, Eau Claire, WI 54701, (715) 492-1787, Nicholas.Lindstrom@wisconsin.gov

The Department has tentatively decided that the above specified WPDES permit should be reissued.

Limitations and conditions which the Department believes adequately protect the receiving water are included in the proposed permit. Land application of waste shall be done in accordance with permit conditions and applicable codes. All land application sites shall be approved prior to their use. To receive a list of approved sites, or to be notified of potential approvals, contact the above named basin engineer.

Persons wishing to comment on or object to the proposed permit action, or to request a public hearing, may write to the Department of Natural Resources at the above named permit drafter's address. All comments or suggestions received no later than 30 days after the publication date of this public notice will be considered along with other information on file in making a final decision regarding the permit. Anyone providing comments in response to this public notice will receive a notification of the Department's final decision when the permit is issued. Where designated as a reviewable surface water discharge permit, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is allowed up to 90 days to submit comments or objections regarding this permit determination. If no comments are received on the proposed permit from anyone, including U.S. EPA, the permit will be issued as proposed.

The Department may schedule a public informational hearing if requested by any person and shall schedule a public informational hearing if a petition requesting a hearing is received from 5 or more persons or if response to this notice indicates significant public interest pursuant to s. 283.49, Stats. Requests for a public informational hearing shall state the following: the name and address of the person(s) requesting the hearing; the interest in the proposed permit of the person(s) requesting the hearing; the reasons for the request; and the issues proposed to be considered at the hearing.

Information on file for this permit action, including the draft permit, fact sheet and permit application, may be inspected and copied at either the above named permit drafter's office or the above named basin engineer's office, Monday through Friday (except holidays), between 9:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Please call the permit drafter or basin engineer for directions to their office location, if necessary. Information on this permit action may also be obtained by calling the permit drafter at (608) 266-3221 or by writing to the Department. Reasonable costs (15 cents per page for copies and 7 cents per page for scanning) will be charged for information in the file other than the public notice, permit and fact sheet. Permit information is also available on the internet at: <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/wastewater/PublicNotices.html>. Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, reasonable accommodation, including the provision of informational material in an alternative format, will be made to qualified individuals upon request.

NAME OF PUBLISHING NEWSPAPER: Wausau Daily Herald

ADDRESS OF PUBLISHING NEWSPAPER: PO Box 1286, Wausau, WI 54402-1286

Date Notice Issued: April 12, 2021

STREAMLINED PUBLIC NOTICE VERSION FOR NEWSPAPER

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FOR THE COMPLETE PUBLIC NOTICE AND DETAILS GO TO THE WEB LINK:

<http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/wastewater/PublicNotices.html>

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Limitations and conditions which the Department believes adequately protect the receiving water are included in the proposed permit. Information on file for this permit action, including the draft permit, fact sheet and permit application, may be reviewed on the internet at the above web link or may be inspected and copied at the permit drafter's office during office hours. Information on this permit may also be obtained by calling the permit drafter or by writing to the Department. Reasonable costs (15 cents per page for copies and 7 cents per page for scanning) will be charged for information in the file other than the public notice, permit and fact sheet. Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, reasonable accommodation, including the provision of informational material in an alternative format, will be made to qualified individuals upon request.